



**CALIFORNIA  
HIGH-SPEED RAIL  
AUTHORITY**

**BRIEFING: JULY 2011 OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**AGENDA ITEM #4**

**TO:** **Chairman Pringle, Members Burns and Richards**

**FROM:** **Roelof van Ark: CEO / Hans VanWinkle: Program Director, PMT**

**DATE:** **July 14, 2011**

**RE:** **Procurement Strategy Discussion**

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**Background**

The California High Speed Rail Authority is in the process of issuing procurement documents for the first contracts that will begin construction on the Initial Construction Segment (ICS). Prior to the issuance of these contracts, it is important that the Authority have sound and logical procurement policies and procedures in place. Accordingly, the Authority is preparing an overall "Policies and Procedures Manual" and this document is in the final draft stages of preparation. These policies and procedures currently fall under the purview of the California Director of General Services, however, there is pending legislation to give the Authority additional authorizations (AB1422).

Currently, the Authority staff is preparing the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) document for the first section of the ICS, which will lead to a short list of qualified bidders who will then respond to a Request for Proposal (RFP). The RFQ and RFP will be for Design-Build contracts, hence the need for a Design- Build program plan. This plan is fully coordinated with the overall procurement "Policies and Procedures Manual".

**Discussion**

The ARRA-funded ICS is in the final state of environmental clearance, and the Regional Contractors are in the process of producing 30% designs. This level of design will provide a buildable design concept for the design-builder. The design-builder will be required to take responsibility for the entire design of the section for which they contract. This process fosters the integration of design with the design- builder's construction means, methods, sequences and techniques.

The design-build contracting method has been selected given the status of the project and the need for rapid and integrated construction as well as the need to ensure risk transfer to the contractors who are better prepared to manage such integrated project risks. Project size, schedule and funding, project complexity and the need for innovation, risk and incentives, project scope, limited Authority oversight staff and the availability of qualified design-build contractors are some of the factors leading to the selection of the appropriate contracting type to be design-build.

The draft CAHSR ARRA Design- Build Program Plan is attached. It describes in detail the process by which the authority will conduct the overall process of procurement, including solicitation, selection, monitoring and administration of the design- build contracts. As required by the federal

funding/cooperative agreement, this plan will be forwarded to the FRA for comment and approval, at which time it will be the governing document in the process of selecting appropriate contractors to begin construction of the ICS.

**Recommendation**

The Operations Committee should provide comments on the Design-Build Program Plan, as needed, to the Authority staff for inclusion in the document prior to submission to the FRA.

**Attachments:**

- ✓ Design Build Program Plan